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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

4 FEBRUARY 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Imperial Beach - One Dead, One Hospitalized after Smuggling Boat Capsizes

(U) One person died and a second was hospitalized after a suspected smuggling boat carrying seven people capsized in unusually high surf and cold weather off the coast of Imperial Beach. Federal officers advised that the boat had engine problems and at least two people were seen entering the water as the vessel appeared to capsize. Authorities responded and found seven people on the beach, including on subject who was later pronounced dead. Six others, including the boat's captain, were taken into custody and the boat was seized.

SOURCE: 3 February 2020, San Diego Union-Tribune

(U) Placerville – Two Homes, Cameron Park Business Raided in Connection to Honey Oil Operation

(U) Authorities advise that four people have been arrested after a honey oil operation raid in El Dorado County. The raids involved two homes and a business in Cameron Par. All the locations were suspected of being connected to a butane honey oil lab operation. Authorities discovered pounds of marijuana, concentrated cannabis, lab equipment and cans of butane. Those arrested face charges of manufacturing controlled substance, conspiracy, and child endangerment.

SOURCE: 3 February 2020, CBS Sacramento

(U) Morgan Hill - Santa Clara County Deputy Ambushed

(U) A Santa Clara sheriff's deputy, who was shot and injured in an ambush, may have been saved when a bullet struck the body camera he was wearing. Deputy Sukhdeep Gill was patrolling when he was ambushed by someone in an approaching car. A suspect in an unidentified vehicle fired at least four shots at the deputy, who was outside his vehicle at the time. The deputy was struck once in the center of his body and a bullet hit his body camera. Gill, a practicing Sikh, suffered an injury that is no life threatening. The department is unclear if the motive was a hate crime or a crime of opportunity against law enforcement.

SOURCE: 3 February 2020, CBS SF Bay Area

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – US CBP Seizes Substantial Amount of Methamphetamine Worth over \$3 Million

(U) Hidalgo – US Customs and Border Protection arrested a suspect from Houston after discovering \$3.26 million worth of alleged methamphetamine concealed within a personally owned vehicle at the Hidalgo International Bridge. After being referred for further examination, a secondary inspection by non-intrusive imaging equipment revealed liquid methamphetamine hidden within the vehicle's gas tank. The extraction resulted in 163-pounds of the narcotic. The vehicle was seized and the Houston native was arrested.

SOURCE: 3 February 2020, <u>US CBP Press Release</u>

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(U) NATIONAL

(U) Michigan- Two Men have Pled Guilty to Conspiring to Support ISIS

(U) Lansing – Two individuals have pled guilty to conspiracy charges related to arrests for providing material support to a designated terrorist organization, specifically to the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). The two suspects, who are brothers, recorded a video pledging loyalty to ISIS and one brother had planned on traveling to Somalia to join the terrorist organization. The two men have agreed to cooperate with prosecutors and other investigators as they continue to proceed with charges against a third Lansing man.

SOURCE: 3 February 2020, Detroit Free Press

(U) New York - Iranian National Charged by US in Million-Dollar Sanctions-Skirting Scheme

(U) New York City – US prosecutors have charged an Iranian national for his alleged role in channeling more than \$115 million through the US financial system and lying about his knowledge of international sanctions. The suspect is accused of bank fraud and making false statements in connection with alleged involvement in an infrastructure project initiated by Iran and Venezuela. The suspect faces up to 30-years in prison if convicted.

SOURCE: 3 February 2020, Fox News

(U) Texas – Two Women Dead, Child Hurt in Shooting at Texas A&M University Residence Hall

(U) Commerce – Two women were killed and a child was injured in a shooting at a residence hall at Texas A&M University in Commerce. Students and staff members on campus were asked to shelter in place as "precautionary measure' as university police investigated the shooting. The order was lifted after about an hour, but the residence hall remained blocked off. Investigators believe those involved in the shooting new each other. The university did not identify the victims and an investigation is ongoing. SOURCE: 3 February 2020, NBC News

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Burkina Faso – Gunmen Kill 20 Civilians in Attack

(U) Lamdamol – As many as 20 civilians have been killed in an overnight attack in north-western Burkina Faso. Unidentified heavily armed men on motorbikes carried out the attack in Lamdamol. The attack comes a week after 39 people were killed when militants attacked a market in the province of Soum. The Sahel region has seen an increase in jihadist violence in recent months. Last year saw the highest death toll due to armed conflict in the region since 2012, with more than 4,000 people killed. SOURCE: 3 February 2020, BBC News

(U) Denmark – Denmark Arrests Iranian Opposition Members Suspected of Spying for Saudis

(U) Copenhagen – Denmark authorities arrested three leading members of an Iranian Arab opposition group on suspicion of spying for Saudi Arabia. The three members of the Arab Struggle Movement for the Liberation of Ahvaz (ASMLA) had already been charged by Danish police for supporting an attack in Iran in 2018. ASMLA seeks a separate state for ethnic Arabs in Iran's oil producing southwestern province of Khuzestan.

SOURCE: 3 February 2020, Reuters

(U) Iran - Iran Sentences Man to Death for Spying for the CIA

(U) Tehran – Iran's top court has confirmed a death sentence for a man purportedly convicted of spying for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). An Iranian judiciary spokesman advised that the suspect "earned a lot of money" to pass on information about Iran's nuclear program to the US. The spokesman

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also stated that "two more American spies" had been sentenced to ten-years in prison for espionage and five-years for acting against national security. There was no immediate comment from the US. SOURCE: 4 February 2020, <u>BBC News</u>

(U) Syria – Six Turkish Troops, 13 Syrian Soldiers Killed in North Syria

(U) Idlib – Turkey hit targets in northern Syria, responding to shelling by Syrian government forces that killed at least six Turkish soldiers. A Syrian war monitor advised that 13 Syrian troops were also killed. The exchange, which came hours after a large Turkish military convoy entered Idlib, the last rebel stronghold in Syria, is likely to further increase tension between the two neighboring countries. SOURCE: 3 February 2020, Washington Times

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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